ATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

: 10/620,617

Confirmation No.: 9661

Applicant

: WOUTER IJDO, et al.

Filed

: July 17, 2003

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Examiner

: Michael A. Marcheschi

Docket No.

: 080395.52547C1

Customer No.

: 23911

Title

: VISCOSITY STABLE SMECTITE CLAY SLURRIES

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following remarks are respectfully submitted in response to the Office Action dated March 15, 2004.

Petition for Extension of Time begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Specification begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

07/15/2004 EABUBAK1 00000037 10620617

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FC:1251	110.00	